

The Sun

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31, 1887.

The main feature of the State Committee meeting at Saratoga yesterday was the contest between the HILL Democrats and the CLEVELAND Democrats for the possession of the place made vacant by Mr. DANIEL N. LOCKWOOD's resignation. The Administration had a candidate for this place on the committee in the person of Gen. PETER C. DOYLE of Buffalo, who went to Saratoga bearing letters of recommendation from WILLIAM S. BISSSELL and from GEORGE B. LEBERTH, proprietor of that out-and-out CLEVELAND newspaper organ, the *Buffalo Courier*. Assemblyman SHELLMAN, one of the leading anti-CLEVELAND Democrats in the last Legislature, was also a candidate for the vacancy. The test votes on preliminary questions showed that the Administration controls the present State Committee by virtue of the support of Tammany Hall. The votes of Mr. W. BOURKE COCKRAN and the three other Tammany committeemen gave the control of the machine to Mr. CLEVELAND's agents by a narrow majority.

At present Tammany holds the balance of power, and seems disposed to exercise it for CLEVELAND and against HILL.

Tobacco Prohibition.

We copy from the *National Temperance Advocate*, the organ of a society of which the Rev. Dr. THEODORE L. CUYLER is President, an impressive warning against the consequences of cigarette smoking:

"Among the recent deadly diseases in this city is that of a young man of much promise, Mr. BENJAMIN H. KAYNA, a son of the late lawyer of ex-President ARMY, a victim, as the autopsy indicated, of cigarette smoking. He was a young man of the physique with the appearance of vigorous health. It was shown at the autopsy that he had been in the habit of smoking about three packages, or sixty cigarettes daily; that this had greatly impaired the action of the heart, and had finally resulted in consequent congestion of the brain, with attendant coma, resulting in death."

"Cigarette smoking is an evil of large and rapidly increasing proportions. The young man, and even the boy in his teens, who does not smoke, is latterly the exception. To all who are under bondage to the cigarette, and to all smokers, the death of young KAYNA should be an effective warning."

The Rev. Dr. CUYLER's newspaper is doing all that it can to promote the movement for the suppression of the liquor traffic by Government interference.

Here is another traffic which encourages another form of intemperance deadly in its results, according to the opinion of the *Advocate*. Men have drunk to an excess that put them in the grave. Men and boys have smoked themselves to death. Tobacco, like alcohol, has in numbers of cases impaired the usefulness of members of society, wrought physical and moral ruin to its devotees, and promoted extravagant habits to the injury of innocent women and children. There is no doubt about that.

The man who sells a glass of spirits, wine, or beer is morally no worse than the man who sells cigarettes. There is no iniquity in the act of selling, independently of its consequences. If, because in some cases the abuse of liquor by the purchaser leads to consequences detrimental to the interests of society, it is within the duty and power of Government to declare the traffic illegal and to suppress it as far as possible, then it is equally within the duty and power of Government to legislate against the sale of cigarettes.

In other words, if the degree of Government interference with private rights is to be determined, not by the greatest good of the greatest number, but by the weaknesses of the weakest members of society, then there is no question that the sale of cigarettes, and probably of cigars, pipes, and chewing tobacco also, ought to be absolutely prohibited, and a national movement for laws and Constitutional amendments to that effect is directly in order.

Railroads and Legislatures.

Senator STANFORD of California, by the decision of Judge FIELD of the Supreme Court, is relieved from the obligation to answer the questions put to him by the Pacific Railroad Commission regarding the expenditure of funds for the purpose of influencing legislation. He is only one railroad President among hundreds of others. The Central Pacific Railroad is only one railroad among the hundreds of others whose earnings have been partially diverted to what may be called "legislative purposes." We don't suppose that there is an important railroad in the country whose directors have not obtained directly or indirectly with State Legislatures.

Of these transactions we imagine that the majority could be justly described as blackmail on the part of venal and piratical legislators. But in this respect Senator STANFORD and the Central Pacific Railroad are a single railroad President in the country who, on being placed in a position similar to Senator STANFORD's, would not have chosen to follow his course before the Railroad Commission?

No one need answer this question, for no one on trial now.

The Mobilizing Experiment in France.

There is some ground for apprehending that the partial mobilization of the French army, which Gen. FERRON intended to carry out early in September, may, owing to the premature and, it is said, unauthorized divulgence of his programme, be held up by the Germans to derision as a farce. The present Minister for War insisted, it will be remembered, that the military next fall to help the French army, which Gen. FERRON intended to carry out early in September, may, owing to the premature and, it is said, unauthorized divulgence of his programme, be held up by the Germans to derision as a farce. The present Minister for War insisted, it will be remembered, that the military next fall to help the French army, which Gen. FERRON intended to carry out early in September, may, owing to the premature and, it is said, unauthorized divulgence of his programme, be held up by the Germans to derision as a farce.

It is plain that Von Moltke's staff saw nothing farcical in the mobilizing projects of Gen. BOULANGER. On the contrary, so much anxiety was felt upon the subject in Berlin army circles that the French Foreign Office was notified that the concentration of a large force, upon any pretext, on the frontier of Alsace-Lorraine would be regarded as a threat. Whether BOULANGER had he retained control of the War Department or would not have heeded this rather arrogant admonition is uncertain; for of his plans, at all events, the secret was well kept. Without such secrecy the money spent in mobilizing would, of course, be thrown away. Obviously, if the time and district chosen for concentration and manoeuvres and the corps to be ordered out were known beforehand, no light whatever would be thrown on the ability of France to place in the field with the needed expedition the huge mass of soldiery which figures upon paper.

It is undisputed that the main features of Gen. FERRON's programme were correctly

outlined by the Paris *Figaro* some time ago upon information furnished, as it has now been discovered, by two of the Minister's Secretaries. Whether the damage thus done to the scheme of mobilization, considered as in any sense a test of readiness and efficiency, is not irreparable, must be acknowledged to be doubtful. For if the same corps designated by the *Figaro* is made the subject of experiment, the Gorman general staff will make the French War Minister a laughing stock, and Berlin newspapers may hint that the divulgers of a warning calculated to insure timely preparation were first privately encouraged by their official superiors and then made scapegoats. But let us suppose, on the other hand, that the plans of Gen. FERRON are entirely recast and a different corps selected for mobilization. It would still be open to unfriendly critics to contend that the range of choice had been so much narrowed by the incident as to almost wholly deprive the mobilizing scheme of demonstrative value. For with one section of France divided as a hold of operation, on account of the betrayal of the official intentions, and with the KORTVING Cabinet pledged not to allow any military movement on the German or Italian frontiers, the commanders of corps quartered in the centre, west, and north of France would know that the War Minister must fall back for his experiment on one of themselves. They would thus be forewarned, and would all try to place themselves in a state of preparation.

On the whole, it looks as if the mobilization scheme would, under the present management, be worth a good deal less to France than the money which the Chamber of Deputies allotted to it, and as if Gen. FERRON might, after all, find the boots of Gen. BOUTANGER too big for him.

A Pretty Poor Philosopher.

Mr. WILLIAM HOBBS BALLOU contributes to the last number of the *North American Review* what he probably regards as an important paper on "The Future American," who, he concludes, will be able to give odds to all the rest of the human race.

The conclusion may be sound, but the assertions which Mr. BALLOU gives as facts to sustain it will not often stand examination. He says, for instance, that the negroes of the United States are becoming white and are, in fact, a half-breed. He says, also, that the negroes of the United States are becoming white and are, in fact, a half-breed. He says, also, that the negroes of the United States are becoming white and are, in fact, a half-breed.

It might perhaps be supposed that Mr. BALLOU had gone into a scientific examination of the facts as to the modification of races in this country before venturing to make such a prophecy in a serious and influential periodical. But his brief paper of four pages contains nothing of the sort, and affords no evidence whatever that it is the fruit of careful inquiry, or is based on anything more valuable than the fancies of an ill-informed man.

As a matter of fact, the tendency toward the preservation of the pure African type among the negroes seems to have been stronger since emancipation than in the period of slavery. The mulattoes appear to be decreasing proportionately, irregularly, and in the South being less frequent under freedom than under the different legal position of colored women. The race line is really drawn more sharply than it was before emancipation, with the consequence that the African blood is less diluted. Unless we come upon a period when the present violent antipathy to intermarriage between the blacks and whites shall be overcome, there is nothing to justify the forecast of Mr. BALLOU as to the whitening of the negro race. The climate certainly does not produce such a result.

Nor is there any sign of the whites becoming copper-colored like the aborigines under the influence of the climate, as Mr. BALLOU argues. No such change has occurred after two hundred and fifty years in New England, the English race there having grown paler rather than darker. Even at the South, when there has been no admixture of the blood of the darker races, the people are not by any means tending toward the color of the aborigines. Those aborigines, according to ethnological theory, brought their race characteristics with them when they themselves immigrated hither at a long-past period, and the varieties of their color do not bear any visible relation to the temperature of the climate, darker tribes being found in the temperate zone and lighter in the tropics.

Mr. BALLOU writes with the same looseness and ignorance when he comes to speak of the "amalgamation of customs" in the United States. What justification, for instance, is there for this assertion?

"In the large metropolitan cities ladies purchase and use more cigarettes than men, a custom imported from Southern lands."

In reality, the number of women in our large cities who smoke cigarettes is proportionately small, and the consumption of cigarettes is a hundred fold more by men than by women. Somebody must have been making sport of Mr. BALLOU.

Senator Gorman's Enemies.

There is a good deal of cackling among the Republicans and the Republican Mugwumps over the Mugwumpdemocrats of Maryland. It is worth while to give the true cause and a correct estimate of the importance of the episode which has given to Mr. J. K. COWEN, an estimable but excitable person, a little temporary notoriety.

Two little cliques of men, numerous in nobody's estimation and powerful only in their own, will do the Maryland next fall to help the Republicans of Maryland. One is a Democratic faction, small, constantly defeated in its attempts to make the great majority of the Democracy of the State follow the whimsies of an insignificant but arrogant minority. Embittered by constant failure, this little clique, or so much of it as has the courage to follow the eccentric course of Mr. COWEN, has at length resolved to assist the Republicans openly and directly.

Personal disappointment and malice against Senator GORMAN, the strongest, most popular, and most successful leader among the Maryland Democrats, has, are the evident motives which inspire the Cowenites. They seek to strike at Mr. GORMAN through their party, because it prefers his leadership and his principles to theirs.

The other clique of Mr. GORMAN's enemies is composed of the Maryland professional civil service reformers. These are in pain because the spoils system has been enforced and re-enforced in Maryland during the Administration of Mr. CLEVELAND and under the wise direction and advice of Mr. GORMAN. The Federal officers there number among them some of the most active Democratic politicians of the State, and some of the most determined enemies of civil service reform. Maryland is no Massachusetts, and the civil service reformers are singing dirges:

"The reformers' head is on the shore, Maryland, my Maryland!"

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A Word to the Unwise.

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But if Mr. MILLIS and the rather bold than prudent people who think as he does are allowed to have their way, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Indiana, and perhaps one or two Southern States besides will be lost to the Democratic party.

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